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ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 47400-0100 (252658)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Application of:

West et al.

Serial No. 09/653,406

Filed: September 1, 2000

For: Nitric Oxide-Producing Hydrogel
Materials

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Art Unit: 1615

Examiner: Di Nola Baron, Liliana

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents
Mailstop AF
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed March 24, 2004, a two-month period of response to which expires May 24, 2004, applicants respectfully request amendment of the claims and reconsideration of the rejected claims based upon the amendments and following remarks. This Response is filed within two months of the date of the Final Office Action. In accordance with MPEP 706.07(f)(A), if a response is filed within two months, the shortened statutory period for responding to Final Office Action expires at three months from the date of the final rejection or on the date the Advisory Action is mailed, whichever is later.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Mailstop AF, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on May 20, 2004.

Elena S. Polovnikova

Elena S. Polovnikova, Ph.D. – Reg. No: 52,130